

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-10 AF-10 FEA-01 ACDA-07 EB-07
NRC-05 OES-07 ERDA-05 /123 W
-----071920Z 100856 /43

R 071719Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3718
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, FR, GW
SUBJ: SCHMIDT INTERVIEW IN LE MONDE

1. LE MONDE JUNE 3 CONTINUES SERIES OF ANDRE FONTAINE
INTERVIEWS WITH LEADING STATESMAN WITH AN EXCHANGE
WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. FOLLOWING SKETCHES MAIN
SCHMIDT POINTS.

2. ON CARTER FOREIGN POLICY:
AMERICAN POLICY UNDER PRESIDENT CARTER WILL BE
ONE OF CONTINUITY. THE US REMAINS INTERESTED IN A
STRONG EUROPE. AS THE LONDON MEETING SHOWED, THE US
WANTS TO DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEANS ON A
STRAIGHTFORWARD AND CONFIDENT BASIS. SCHMIDT ALSO
DOES NOT EXPECT GREAT CHANGES IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS.
LIKE HIS PREDECESSORS, CARTER WANTS A SALT II AGREE-
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MENT WITH THE SOVIETS. SINCE THE SOVIETS SHARE THIS
DESIRE, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT AN AGREEMENT WILL BE
REACHED IN 1977.

3. ON NON-PROLIFERATION:
PRESIDENT CARTER WAS RIGHT IN CONFRONTING WORLD
PUBLIC OPINION WITH THE EXTREMELY COMPLICATED PROBLEM

OF PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS ARE SUCH THAT THE NPT NO LONGER SUFFICES TO GUARANTEE AGAINST MILITARY USE OF NUCLEAR PLANTS. THE US ARE TRYING TO MEET THIS DANGER BY ESTABLISHING A WORLD SYSTEM OF CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS. THE FRG WILL CERTAINLY COOPERATE IN SUCH AN EFFORT. WE DO CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT WE NOT BE VIRTUALLY THE ONLY COUNTRY TO HAVE TO SUBMIT TO CONTROLS.

SUCH A SYSTEM WILL BE EXTREMELY COMPLEX BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER AND DIVERSITY OF STATES INVOLVED--WHICH SCHMIDT THEN SKETCHES OUT: MEMBERS OF THE NUCLEAR CLUB ADHERING TO NPT; MEMBERS NOT ADHERING LIKE FRANCE AND CHINA; AND, THIRDLY, THOSE ADHERING TO NPT WHO HAVE RENOUNCED USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. FURTHER, WITHIN THESE THREE CATEGORIES, THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR OWN URANIUM; THOSE WHO HAVE TO IMPORT IT; THOSE WHO CAN ENRICH IT THEMSELVES; FINALLY THERE ARE THOSE WHO WANT TO BUILD ENRICHMENT FACILITIES, OR THOSE WHO WANT OTHERS TO DO THE ENRICHMENT FOR THEM. MOREOVER, COUNTRIES WITH LIMITED URANIUM RESOURCES LIKE THE FRG AND FRANCE HAVE A GREATER INTEREST IN FAST-BREEDER REACTORS THAN THOSE NOT SO LIMITED. NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL IS ALSO A HARDER PROBLEM FOR DENSELY POPULATED COUNTRIES, WHO THEREFORE WANT TO RETREAT THESE WASTES THEMSELVES.

SCHMIDT CONCLUDES FROM THIS LONG ANALYSIS THAT A WORLD CONVENTION GOING BEYOND THE NPT, DESIGNED TO PREVENT "MORE ADVANCED" NUCLEAR MILITARY APPLICATIONS, WOULD BE (A) DESIRABLE, (B) POSSIBLE, AND (C) VERY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. IT WILL THEREFORE REQUIRE MUCH TIME AND EFFORT AND WILL HAVE TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL THE INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. A FRANK SUMMIT DISCUSSION AT LONDON REVEALED WIDE AGREEMENT ON THIS POINT.

4. THE BRAZILIAN DEAL:

SCHMIDT REVIEWS THIS ISSUE ALONG STANDARD LINES. THE US REFLECTED CONCERN. THE FRG KEEPS ITS AGREEMENTS. IAEA IS PARTY TO A TRILATERAL TREATY BETWEEN FRG AND BRAZIL. DEAL WAS CONSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY US AND SOVIET REPS TO IAEA. CONTROLS INVOLVED EXCEED THOSE REQUIRED BY THE NPT. IN SHORT, THE FRG HAS VIOLATED NO AGREEMENTS AND, BESIDES, IS NOT ALONE IN HAVING OFFERED "SENSITIVE" INSTALLATIONS TO OTHER STATES.

5. EAST-WEST RELATIONS:

THE COMECON COUNTRIES TOO SUFFER ENORMOUSLY FROM

THE WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS BECAUSE OF THEIR RIGIDITY
AND LACK OF FREE MARKETS. IDEOLOGY HAS BECOME AN

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NRC-05 OES-07 ERDA-05 /123 W
-----071923Z 100748 /43

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INSTRUMENT OF POLICY. ON THE MILITARY SIDE, THERE ARE
(MAJOR) ADVANCES DATING BACK TO THE SOVIET DECISIONS TO
CATCH UP WITH THE US. NEVERTHELESS, MBFR IS NOT
DESTINED TO FAIL IF SALT SUCCEEDS, SINCE THE USSR
IS INTERESTED IN STRATEGIC EQUILIBRIUM. THE PURSUIT
OF DETENTE SHOULD THEREFORE NOT BE QUESTIONED.

6. AFRICA:

SCHMIDT EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER RECENT
SOVIET EFFORTS TO ASSURE ITSELF OF A "GOOD NUMBER"
OF POINTS OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY INFLUENCE IN
AFRICA. THE EXTENT OF THIS EFFORT IS "DISTURBING" AND
IN THE LONG RUN "DANGEROUS." DETENTE IN SOME AREAS,
SCHMIDT ADDED, COULD BE PREJUDICED IF (SOVIET)
INFLUENCE ELSEWHERE IS PURSUED INFLEXIBLY (SANS MERCI).

7. ON THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE:

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TO CREATE A WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS DIFFICULT. THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS HAVE AT LEAST PREVENTED ECONOMIC WARFARE AND HAVE LEARNED TO APPLY DIFFERENTIATED, ALTHOUGH MUTUALLY COHERENT ECONOMIC POLICIES TOWARD EACH OTHER.

8. FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONS:

THEY ARE EXCELLENT. THERE IS GREAT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLE EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE AWARE OF THEIR OWN INTERESTS AND ARE COMPETITIVE. AS FOR THE FUTURE, THE FRG DOES NOT SEEK HEGEMONY POLITICALLY OR ECONOMICALLY. FRG BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SURPLUSES ARE BALANCED BY SERVICE ACCOUNT DEFICITS, DUE TO THE CONTINUING REVALUATION OF THE DM IN THE LAST EIGHT YEARS. SCHMIDT CONCLUDES THAT HE CAN UNDERSTAND FEARS THAT THE FRG MAY NOT BE AS STABLE IN THE FUTURE AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE RECENT PAST, BUT DOES NOT SHARE THIS VIEW.

9. COMMENT:

APART FROM HIS CLEAR WARNING TO SOVIETS ON AFRICA, WHICH WAS UNDOUBTEDLY WELCOMED IN PARIS, THE INTERVIEW PRODUCES NO STARTLING REVELATIONS FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE. HOWEVER, WE DEFER TO EMBASSY BONN FOR COMMENT.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS16736
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770202-1203
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770683/aaaacumr.tel
Line Count: 201
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a493bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2248466
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCHMIDT INTERVIEW IN LE MONDE
TAGS: PFOR, FR, GE, US, LE MONDE, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a493bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009